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PATENT  
10/607,900

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: William W. King  
Application Number: 10/607,900  
Filing Date: June 27, 2003  
Group Art Unit: 3672  
Examiner: Dan, Hoang C.  
Title: **ITERATIVE DRILLING SIMULATION PROCESS  
FOR ENHANCED ECONOMIC DECISION  
MAKING**

MAIL STOP - AMENDMENTS  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail #EV351286019US addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 16, 2004.

Amanda M. Guido

Amanda Guido

Dear Sir:

**RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action dated October 20, 2004. The Examiner required an election under 35 U.S.C. 121 between Claims 1-27, drawn to a method for enhanced decision making based on optimization of a drilling system using an economic factor, and Claims 28-30 drawn to an iterative drilling simulation method for enhanced economic decision making.

Applicant hereby elects with traverse to prosecute Claims 1-27. Claims 28-30 are hereby cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant reserves the right to file a divisional application for these claims at a later date.

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**CONCLUSION**

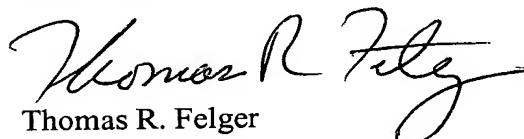
Applicant has now made an earnest effort to place this case in condition for examination and allowance.

No fee appears to be due for this election, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees to Deposit Account No. 50-2148 of Baker Botts L.L.P. in order to effectuate this filing.

If there are any matters concerning this Application that may be cleared up in a telephone conversation, please contact Applicant's attorney at 512.322.2599.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.

  
Thomas R. Felger  
Reg. No. 28,842

CUSTOMER NUMBER: **31625**

512.322.2599

Date: 15 NOV 2004